various issues including those relating to security, and to convey our concerns.

Relief measures to the cyclone affected areas in Gujarat

*59. SHRI PRAFUL GORADIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the cyclone ravages in Kandla and unprecedented floods in Surat last year;

(b) what was the demand from the State Government for relief measures;

(c) whether Central assistance promised on these accounts is still outstanding; and

(d) if so, how long will it take to release the funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The State Government's request for assistance of Rs. 610.65 crore from the National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) in the wake of cyclone is under process in accordance with the established procedure. The quantum of assistance from the NFCR in this regard will be released after approval by the National Calamity Relief Committee. The State Government's request for assistance of Rs. 200 crore from the NFCR in the wake of floods in Surat was examined and it was found that the calamity could not prima-facie be treated as one of rare severity to qualify for assistance from the NFCR and the State Government has been suitably informed. However, an allocation of Rs. 154.83 crore (including Central share of Rs. 116.12 crore) has been made to the State Government under Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for 1998-99 and the entire Central share has already been released to them.

Representation from All India Confederation of SC/ST Organisations

*60. CHAUDHARY CHUNNI LAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that All India Confederation of SC/ST Organisations had made a representation to the Home Minister for withdrawal/modification of Office Memoranda issued by the Department of Personnel and Training on 30.1.97, 2.7.97, 22.7.97, 13.8.97 and 29.8.97 containing directions which adversely affected recruitment and promotional career of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes employees; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken on the above representation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The points raised in the representation have been exmained but it has not been found possible to withdraw/ modify any of these instructions.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

उपभोक्ता नीति

311. लाला लाजपत राय: क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) किस वर्ष मौजूदा कृषि और नागरिक उपभोक्ता आपूर्ति नीति का निर्धारण किया गया था और उसके क्या उद्देश्य थे;

(ख) क्या उक्त नीति अपने उद्देश्यों को प्राप्त करने में असफल साबित हुई है;